

Ashwini Kumar Swain

Curriculum Vitae

Centre for Policy Research
Dharam Marg, Chanakyapuri
New Delhi 110021, INDIA

Tel: +91 11 26115273-76
Email: ashwini@cprindia.org
Skype: [ashwini.swain](https://www.skype.com/people/ashwini.swain)

Research Interests:

Energy Policy | Water-Energy-Food Nexus | Institutions & Development | Regulatory Governance | Public Participation

Work Experience:

Fellow, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi. (April 2018 - present)

Fellow (Non-Resident), The Energy for Growth Hub, Washington DC. (May 2018- present)

Executive Director, Centre for Energy Environment & Resources, New Delhi. (May 2016 – June 2019)

Director (April 2015 – April 2016), Fellow (Dec 2013 – March 2015), Associate Fellow (June-Nov 2013), CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition, New Delhi.

Research Consultant, BBC Media Action, New Delhi. (March 2012 – March 2013)

Senior Consultant, QARA Consulting, Inc., Kabul. (May 2012- Dec 2012)

Research Consultant, Agence Française de Développement, Paris. (July 2010-Sept 2011)

Research Officer, Developmental Leadership Programme. (Sept 2010-May 2011)

Research Assistant, Department of Politics, University of York, York. (Dec 2009- Jan 2010)

Honorary Fellow, Robert M. La Follette School of Public Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Madison. (Sept – Oct 2007)

Project Associate, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi. (Feb 2005 – Oct 2006)

Education:

PhD (2013)

Politics

Thesis: *Macro Implications of Micro-Participation: Participatory Management of Electricity Distribution in Eastern India*

Department of Politics
University of York

MPhil (2006)

Political Studies

Dissertation: *Political Economy of Public Policy Making in the Indian Electricity Sector: Study of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh*

Centre for Political Studies
Jawaharlal Nehru University

MA (2004)

Political Studies

Centre for Political Studies
Jawaharlal Nehru University

BA (2002)

Political Science (Hons), History (Pass)

Ravenshaw College
Utkal University

Publications:

Reports:

2018: *Fixated on Megawatts: Urgent Need to Improve Power Procurement and Resource Planning by Distribution Companies in India*. New Delhi: Centre for Energy, Environment & Resources.

Articles/Chapters:

- 2019: 'The Disruptive Politics of Renewable Energy', *The India Forum*, July 5. (With Navroz K Dubash & Parth Bhatia)
- 2019: 'Beyond Poles and Wires: How to Keep the Electrons Flowing?' in *Policy Challenges 2019-2024: The Key Policy Questions for the New Government and Possible Pathways*, New Delhi: Centre for Policy Research. (With Navroz K Dubash)
- 2018: 'Transforming Reforms: Hype, Hostility, and Placation in Andhra Pradesh's Power Sector Reforms', in NK Dubash, SS Kale & R Bharvirkar (eds.) *Mapping Power: The Political Economy of Electricity in India's States*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 28-49.
- 2018: 'Poverty in the Midst of Abundance: Repressive Populism, Bureaucratization, and Supply-side Bias in Madhya Pradesh's Power Sector', in NK Dubash, SS Kale & R Bharvirkar (eds.) *Mapping Power: The Political Economy of Electricity in India's States*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 155-75.
- 2018: 'Protecting Power: The Politics of Partial Reforms in Punjab', in NK Dubash, SS Kale & R Bharvirkar (eds.) *Mapping Power: The Political Economy of Electricity in India's States*, New Delhi: Oxford University Press, pp. 215-36.
- 2016: 'Political Economy of Distribution Reforms in Indian Electricity', *Working Paper*, Initiative on Climate, Energy and Environment, New Delhi: Centre for Policy Research.
- 2015: 'Transforming Electricity Governance in India: Has India's Power Sector Regulation Enabled Consumers' Power?', *World Bank Policy Research Working Paper 7275*, Washington DC: The World Bank. (With Ashish Khanna, Daljit Singh & Mudit Narain)
- 2014: 'Is There a Trade-Off between Agricultural Development, Adaptation and Mitigation?', *Yojana*, 58, July: 48-51.
- 2014: 'Regulating the Race to Renewables', *Yojana*, 58, May: 29-32.
- 2014: 'Balancing State, Utility and Social Need in Agricultural Electricity Subsidy: The Case for a Holistic Approach to Reform', *Briefing Note*, Geneva: Global Subsidies Initiative, International Institute for Sustainable Development. (With Udai S Mehta)
- 2014: 'India's Green Industrial Policy: Pursuing Clean Energy for Green Growth', *Economic and Political Weekly*, 19(9): 19-21.
- 2013: 'Manoeuvres for a Low Carbon State in India: Agency, Authority and Accountability in Governance of Clean Energy', *CIRC Working Paper Series No 07*, New Delhi: CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition.
- 2012: 'In Pursuit of Energy Efficiency in India's Agriculture: Fighting 'Free Power' or Working with it?' *AFD Working Paper 126*, Paris: Agence Française de Développement. (With Olivier Charnoz)
- 2012: 'High Returns, Low Attention, Slow Implementation: The Paradoxes of India's Clean Energy Development', *AFD Working Paper 125*, Paris: Agence Française de Développement. (With Olivier Charnoz)
- 2009: 'Introducing Competition in the Indian Electricity: Is Micro-Privatisation a Possible Way?' in Pradeep S Mehta and Simon J Evenett edited *Politics Triumphs Economics? Political Economy and the Implementation of Competition Law and Regulation in Developing Countries*, Vol II, Jaipur: CIRC & C-CIER, pp. 119-139.
- 2007: 'Power Crisis in Maharashtra: Socio-Economic Implications', in R. Sthanoomurthy edited *Maharashtra Economy: Performance, Opportunities, and Challenges*, Hyderabad: ICFAI University Press, pp. 231-244.

Op-eds/Blogs:

2019: 'Our Electricity Future', *Indian Express*, July 04, New Delhi. (With Anna Agarwal & Parth Bhatia)

- 2019: 'Modi govt electrified India with poles & wires, but challenge is to keep electrons flowing', *The Print*, June 17. (With Navroz K Dubash)
- 2018: 'Power Politics at Play', *The Hindu*, 09th October, New Delhi. (With Parth Bhatia & Navroz K Dubash)
- 2018: 'Consumers Upfront in Tale of Two Reforms in Andhra', *Hindustan Times*, 19th September, New Delhi.
- 2018: 'Improving Power Procurement Practices', *Mint*, 24th May, New Delhi. (With Daljit Singh)
- 2018: 'In a State of Energy Poverty', *The Hindu*, 12th May, New Delhi.
- 2017: 'A Power Struggle Looms', *Indian Express*, 18th July, New Delhi. (With Johannes Urpelainen)
- 2017: 'India's Pursuit of Energy Transformation', *Mint*, 14th June, New Delhi.
- 2016: 'India Has Legislative Solutions to Its Water Management Problems, But Will They Work?', *The Wire*, 07th October. (With Sarada Prasanna Das)
- 2016: 'Are the Government's Renewable Energy Targets Realistic?', *The Wire*, 12th July. (With Ira Sharma)
- 2016: 'Indian Agriculture: How to feed more people with fewer resources', *Ideas for India*, 05th July. (With Gareth Price & Ira Sharma)
- 2016: 'Punjab Won't Fly Unless It Deals With Its Agrarian Crisis', *The Wire*, 09th June. (With Gareth Price & Ranjit Singh Ghuman)
- 2016: 'A New Paradigm for Agriculture?', *Mint*, 3rd March, New Delhi. (With Gareth Price)
- 2015: 'Consumer in Electricity Regulation', *Mint*, 25th November, New Delhi. (With Daljit Singh, Ashish Khanna & Mudit Narain)
- 2015: 'Power Haves, Power Have-Nots', *Indian Express*, 8th April, New Delhi. (With Pradeep S Mehta)
- 2015: 'India's Silent Spring', *Hindu Business Line*, 05th April, New Delhi. (With Glada Lahn)
- 2014: 'Modi's Maiden Motion: What's 'New' for Renewable?' *CIRC Issue Note 07*, CUTS Institute for Regulation and Competition, New Delhi.
- 2014: 'Can India Reform Its Agriculture', *The Diplomat*, 1st June.
- 2013: 'In Pursuit of Low-Carbon Electricity', *Ideas for India*, 06th September.
- 2013: 'Regulating the race to Renewables', *CIRC Issue Note 01*, CUTS Institute for Regulation & Competition.
- 2013: 'India's Green Industrial Policy', *East Asia Forum*, 18th May.
- 2013: 'Low-Carbon Development in Indian Agriculture: A Missed Opportunity?', *Ideas for India*, 12th April. (With Olivier Charnoz)
- 2013: 'Taking Energy Efficiency to the Market', *Business Standard*, 8th March, New Delhi.
- 2013: 'Agriculture: An Undervalued Sector for Climate Mitigation', *Financial Express*, 4th January, New Delhi. (With Olivier Charnoz)
- 2012: 'India's Clean Energy paradox', *Business Standard*, 7th December, New Delhi. (With Olivier Charnoz)
- 2012: 'The Futility of 'Pump Priming' Agriculture', *Business Standard*, 8th September, New Delhi. (With Olivier Charnoz)

Book Reviews:

- 2009: 'The Oxford Handbook of Political Economy', *Political Studies Review*, 7(3): 418-419.
- 2009: 'Reinventing Public Service Delivery in India: Selected Case Studies', *Contemporary South Asia*, 17(1): 94-95.
- 2008: 'Participatory Citizenship: Identity, Exclusion, Inclusion', *Pacific Affairs*, 81(1): 137-138.

Consultancy Reports:

- 2015: *Consumer Participation and Protection in Electricity Regulation: A Study of Five States in India*, Submitted to the World Bank, New Delhi.
- 2015: *Regulatory Impact in Indian Electricity Generation Sectors*, Submitted to Asian Development Bank, New Delhi.
- 2012: *Assessment of Horticulture and Livestock Producer Groups in Five Focus Districts*, Submitted to the World Bank & the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, Kabul.

2012: *Agriculture in Afghanistan: Linking Agricultural Producers to Markets (Local, Regional & International)*, Submitted to the Asia Foundation, Kabul.

Presentations:

Made presentations at:

- Agence Française de Développement
- Australian National University
- Centre for Economic and Social Studies
- Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development
- Chatham House
- Forum of Regulators
- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Thailand and Vietnam
- Indian Institute Technology, Kanpur
- Institute of Social Studies, Hague
- International Institute for Asian Studies, Leiden
- IPPAI Retreat
- Lund University
- Oxford University
- SAFIR Core Course
- South Asia Forum for Infrastructure Regulators
- University of Amsterdam
- University of Edinburgh
- University of Ulster
- University of York
- World Bank, India

Fellowships:

IPPG Doctoral Fellowship (2006-2009)

Research Consortium on Institutions for Pro-Poor Growth (Funded by DFID), University of Manchester, UK

Research Mobility Programme Fellowship (2007), Worldwide Universities Network